

Placer County Health and Human Services Department

CATERER & COOK-for-HIRE DEFINITIONS

Caterer Definition:

Any person or entity who supplies food and beverages and/or related services to any off-premise *public or private function or event*. Per California Retail Food Code, Caterers are required to operate from a permitted Food Facility (i.e. Commissary, Restaurant, or Coffee Shop).

NOTE: Caterers shall obtain a Health Permit and at least one person shall possess a Food Safety Certificate, all other employees or volunteers shall possess a Food Handler's Card.

Cook-for-Hire Definition:

Any person hired to prepare and /or serve food at an individual's home or private function. Cook-for-Hire must either use employers food or shop directly before arriving at employers home/event. All foods prepared by a cook-for-hire are handled at the location of the private function. No food is stored, prepared, or handled at the private home of the Cook-for-Hire.

NOTE: Cooks-for-Hires are NOT required to obtain a Health Permit. But since Placer County maintains a registry of Cook-for-Hires, individuals who work as Cook-for-Hires are required to sign a Cook-for-Hire Statement. The Business License Application will not be signed off until a Cook-for-Hire Statement is approved.

Due to the risk incurred by using a personal Cook-for-Hire equipment (example chef knives or hot hold units, etc.) it is highly recommended by this office that all equipment be provided by the client and not the Cook-for-Hire him/herself.

For additional information please contact Environmental Health